

Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian **Summer Sweetness**

Photos Cynthia Brian



Pink bindweed is pretty yet an invasive, destructive weed.

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The seeds, which can last for 20 to 50 years in the soil, disperse through the movement of birds, wildlife, and irrigation. Two types of bindweed have taken up residence in my orchard. I hope to one day eradicate it through perseverant pulling of new sprouts which will eventually cause the rhizomes to lose their strength. If you see bindweed in your garden, do not ignore it – dig out the roots as soon as you see it. Once bindweed has established itself in your garden, without chemical intervention (which I don't use or recommend), you will be battling this intruder for years.

Back to the summer sweetness:

Add to your summer sweet garden with a rock cairn. Throughout his-



White gladiolus shines in the evening garden.

tory, stones have been piled high as memorials or markers. I suggest a rock cairn as a fun family nature project. Make a game of it.

For a punch of splashy color, unleash a border mixing different heights and flower shapes with sweet alyssum, marigold, petunia, rudbeckia, and gaillardia.

Sit under a shade tree with a glass of fresh-squeezed lemonade to read a book. If you have children or grandchildren, they will enjoy the true tales of animals in my series, "Stella Bella's Barnyard Adventures", available in books, Amazon, or my StarStyle® Store, <https://www.CynthiaBrian.com/online-store>

Give working outside on your patio or deck a try. The chill of winter is only six months away. Savor the warmth and sweetness of summer.